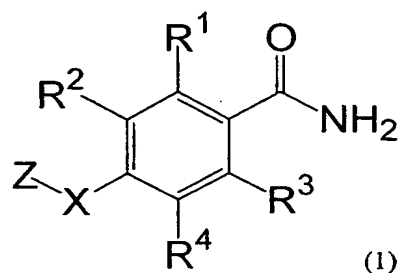


ABSTRACT

A compound represented by formula (1):



wherein X is a single bond or a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylene group; Z is a saturated or unsaturated monocyclic hydrocarbon ring group or the like; and each of R¹, R², R³ and R⁴, which may be the same or different, is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a carboxyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group, or the like, a prodrug of said compound, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of said compound or prodrug has inhibitory effect on Rho kinase and hence is useful for treating diseases which are such that morbidity due to them is expected to be improved by inhibition of Rho kinase and secondary effects such as inhibition of the Na⁺/H⁺ exchange transport system caused by the Rho kinase inhibition, for example, hypertension.